

Application No. 10/696,575
Amendment dated February 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action of November 3, 2004 and the indication of allowable subject matter for claim 12. This Amendment is fully responsive thereto.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in the Office Action that the restriction requirement is made final.

Claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 12, so Applicants respectfully assert that claims 11 and 13-17 are patentable over the cited prior art. The remaining claims 1-10 have been cancelled without prejudice to file a divisional application, so Applicants request allowance of the application.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

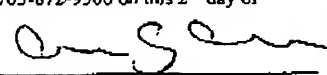
Should the Examiner believe that a telephone call would expedite prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below. It is believed that no fee is due at this time. If that belief is incorrect, please debit deposit account number 01-1375. Also, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment to deposit account number 01-1375.

Respectfully submitted,



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<p>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to telephone number 703-872-9306 on this 2nd day of February, 2005.</p>  <p>Christopher J. Cronin</p>
